

Media, PA – Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) continued his commemoration of Independence Day at the annual Upper Merion celebration, speaking at Heuser Park about the significance of remembering July Fourth and enjoying the opportunity to meet one-on-one with constituents, whether just to exchange greetings or hear about the issues most important to them. Attendees enjoyed food from various vendors, baton twirling, and an appearance by Freckles the clown, all of which were followed by the much anticipated fireworks display. Later, the Congressman traveled to Radnor to attend the annual festivities and fireworks at the high school football field.

“This holiday represents a significant milestone in the history of both our country and democracy,” said the Congressman. “I enjoy Fourth of July celebrations because they honor the sacrifices of our ancestors and celebrate the vibrant traditions that characterize our country today.”

Earlier, the Congressman kicked off his Independence Day events at the Marple Newtown Parade, running back and forth across the packed parade route to greet many of the thousands of his constituents in attendance. The route stretched along West Chester Pike for approximately two miles, spanning from St. Alban’s Circle to the Broomall Fire Company. He expressed his appreciation for the commissioners and supervisors from Marple and Newtown Townships, which sponsored the event. The Congressman next headed to Easttown for the annual Independence Day picnic at the township’s library.

“I could not think of a more appropriate way to observe the birth of this nation than to meet with families across my district,” said the Congressman. “Every fourth of July, I not only value spending one-on-one time with my constituency but also watching each community band together. It is wonderful to see so many individuals working in unison to create special celebrations in honor of this important day.”

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including as Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the*

*highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.*